

# PASTIMES

The Newsletter of the Panhandle Archaeological Society

Volume 34 No. 6, Sept. 2014

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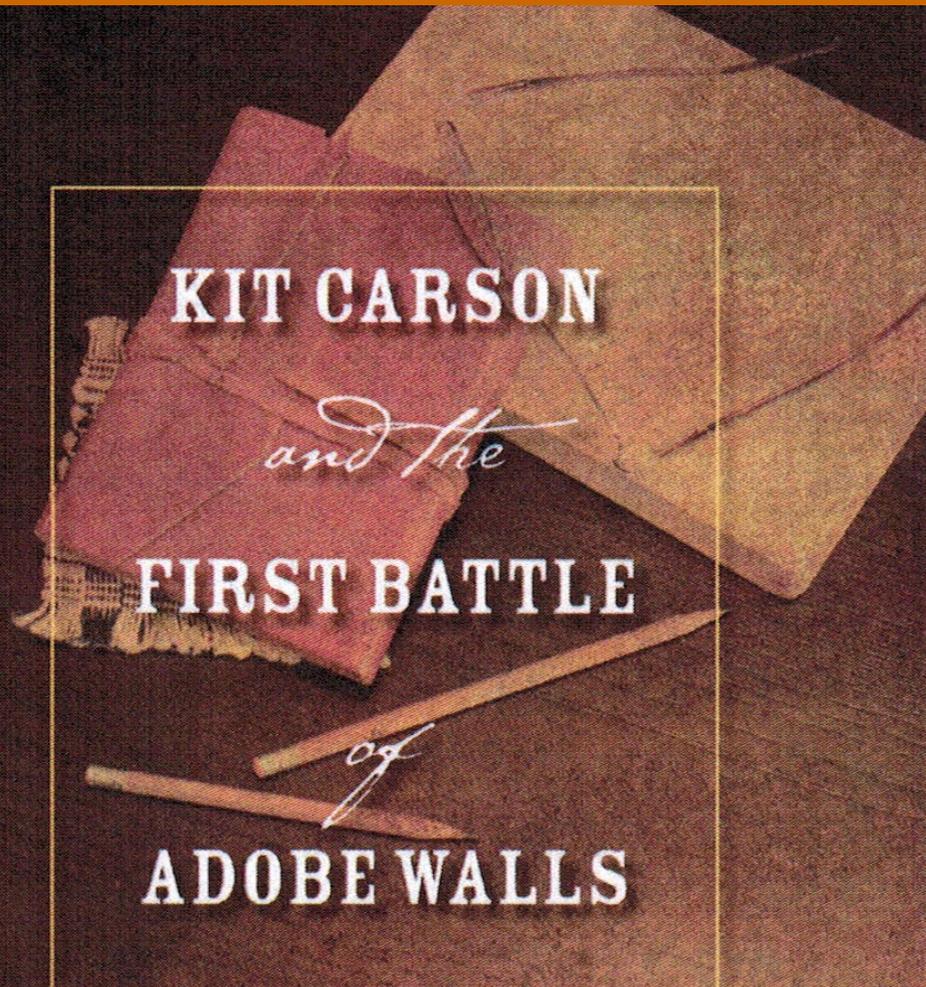
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KIT CARSON

*and The*

FIRST BATTLE

*of*

ADOBE WALLS

A TALE OF TWO JOURNEYS

Foreword by J. Brett Cruse

ALVIN R. LYNN

# Inside...



## Next PAS Meeting

September 21 - 7 P.M. Panhandle Archeological Society meeting at Amarillo Public Library, 413 Southeast 4th St., 2nd Floor. Dempsey Malaney will be our guest speaker. Abstract and biography on Page 7.

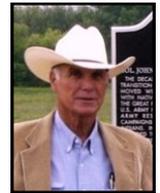


## Page 3

Minutes of PAS May 21st meeting.

## Page 4

“Kit Carson and the First Battle of Adobe Walls” by PAS member Alvin Lynn has recently been released.



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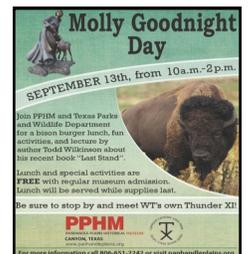
Buttons, Buttons, who lost the buttons?



## *News & Notes :*

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Molly Goodnight Day at PPHM in Canyon.



West Texas Trails in Quitaque.

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Dempsey Malaney abstract and biography .

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# Upcoming Events

PANHANDLE ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Minutes May 21, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Scott Brosowske in the absence of President Donna Otto shortly after 7:00 p.m. at the Downtown Amarillo Library second floor Board Room.

There were 16 members in attendance.

The following upcoming meetings and events were announced:

- . Regular meetings are the 3rd Wednesday of the month. (The next regular meeting will be September 15 at the Amarillo Library.)
- . TAS Field School, June 14-21, Columbus

PROGRAM: "New Insights into the Antelope Creek Phase of the Southern High Plains," presented by Scott Brosowske. Scott compared the findings of Chris Lintz's publication from 1986 with the recent work at Archie King Sites 1 and 2, Chill Hill, Killer and Little Killer, and Eastview. Study of residential structures, hunting patterns, utilization of cultivated vs. native plants, and intersocietal exchange were considered.

MINUTES: Minutes of the April meeting were approved as printed in the May Newsletter.

TREASURER'S REPORT: As the treasurer was absent, there was no report.

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT: Rolla Shaller reported a balance of \$1,261.00 in the money market account and \$5,025.95 in the CD. The report was approved.

OLD BUSINESS: The SWFAS Meeting was a success. Rolla read communications from three presenters complimenting the PAS for hosting a well-run conference.

NEW BUSINESS: A new editor for the Newsletter is needed as Jerry Leatherman has retired.

The Centennial of Adobe Walls will be October 4.

MEETING ADJOURNED: There being no further business or announcements, the meeting was adjourned by Scott Brosowske at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ruthe Carter, Secretary

## Alvin Lynn's Book now on Sale

Panhandle Archaeological Society valued member and noted historian Alvin Lynn has authored a new book that has been published by Texas Tech University Press.

Kit Carson and the First Battle of Adobe Walls is now on sale and Alvin is busy signing copies among his other chores.

Below is a brief account of Colonel Kit Carson's adventures in the Texas panhandle, during 1864.

On November 12, 1864 Colonel Kit Carson left Fort Bascom, New Mexico, with 335 soldiers and seventy-five Ute and Jicarilla Apache scouts. They marched down the north side of the Canadian River toward Fort Adobe -Bent's old trading post.

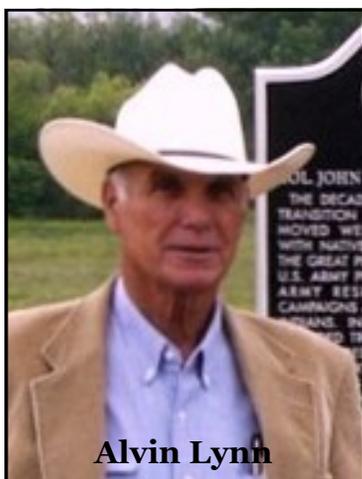
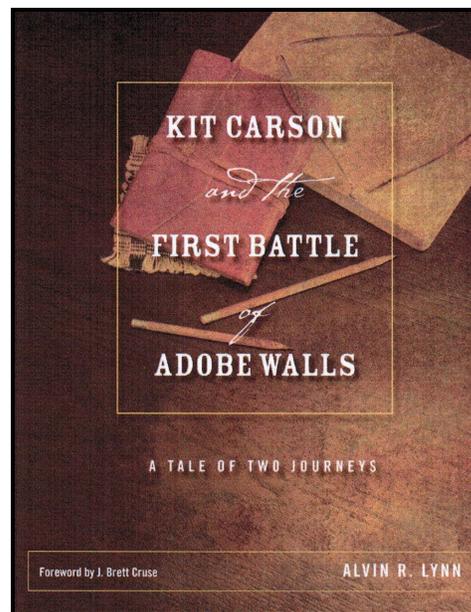
Early on the morning of November 25, the taunting calls of Indians reached them from across the Canadian River, "Come over here." Carson's cavalry obliged as they laid chase down river, through the Indian village, and on to Adobe Walls. Carson and a few troopers followed with two howitzers, which saved their skins.

At the first firing of the howitzers, the Indians fled down river but soon returned with several hundred additional Indians. By mid-afternoon, with ammunition running low and having separated from the supply wagons the day before, the situation was bleak. Carson thought it prudent to move back up river, burn the Kiowa village, and locate his supplies.

After setting the village afire, the troops marched west for about four miles and located their wagons on a protected ridge. After a day's recuperation, the column marched back toward New Mexico arriving at Fort Bascom on December 10.

Many authors have written about Carson as mountain man, adventurer with Fremont, soldier in the Mexican War, government liaison at Indian peace councils, and leader in the Navajo and Apache campaigns, but history books contain almost nothing on Carson's battle at Adobe Walls.

Alvin Lynn has filled that void. Beginning his research in the 1990s, he located and walked the 200-mile long wagon road from Fort Bascom to Adobe Walls and collected 1800 metal artifacts from 15 historic camps including the burned Kiowa village. Alvin has written an account of this forgotten phase of Kit Carson's adventures, published by Texas Tech University Press.



**Alvin Lynn**

## Buttons, Buttons, Who Lost the Buttons?

Jerry Leatherman, *editor*

Frequently when researching or surveying a historic site unexpected information and/or out of the ordinary artifacts turn up. The latter was the case for Ronnie Carpenter of Quitaque, TX. While conducting a metal detecting survey of a historic Indian site near the Rock Creek drainage in Briscoe County, he had an unusual hit.

Upon further investigation he uncovered a spoon, similar in design to many in the mid 1800's through the early parts of the 1900's. But that wasn't all that was in the hole. A total of 46 cast, presumably copper, or perhaps brass, 1/2 inch diameter buttons were eventually re-



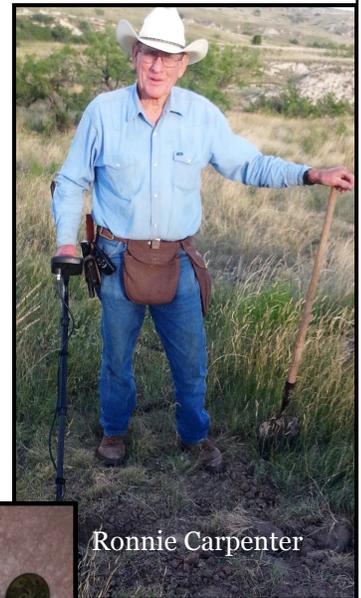
removed from the small hole. They were contained within an area with an approximate eight inch diameter and discovered at depths of three to six inches.



Flat loop back buttons are fairly common at Indian sites but these appear to be slightly concave with a drilled eye on the shank. The décor is perhaps patterned after a child's spinning wheel, or something similar, and doesn't fit any of the various com-

monly found military button designs that have been recovered in the pan-handle area. There are no backmarks.

If you have any thoughts or comparable pictures please send them to me at: [acerenewablesables@midplains.coop](mailto:acerenewablesables@midplains.coop)



Ronnie Carpenter

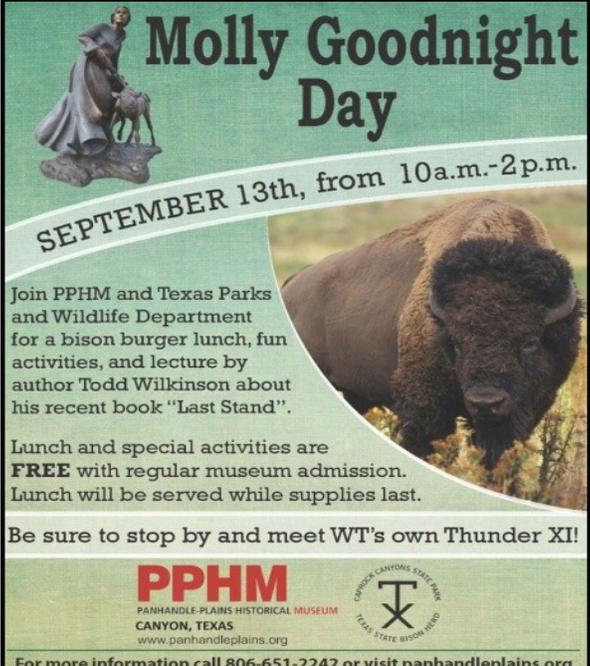


## News & Notes:

**September 13th-** 2014 marks the 175th birthday of Mary Ann Dyer “Molly” Goodnight, savior of the American Bison. PPHM is partnering with Caprock Canyons State Park, home of the Texas State Bison Herd, to celebrate this incredible Woman of the West.

Join in the celebration at the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum Saturday, September 13th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Guests will enjoy fun family activities, sample a bison burger for lunch (while supplies last), and get your photo taken with WT’s own Thunder XI who will be located near the T Anchor Ranch cabin on PPHM’s grounds! Lunch and activities are free with regular admission. Lunch will be available while supplies last. Cupcakes have been generously donated by the Cake Company of Canyon. For more information contact Amy Mitchell at 806.651.2242 at amitchell@pphm.wtamu.edu.



**Molly Goodnight Day**  
**SEPTEMBER 13th, from 10a.m.-2p.m.**

Join PPHM and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for a bison burger lunch, fun activities, and lecture by author Todd Wilkinson about his recent book "Last Stand".

Lunch and special activities are **FREE** with regular museum admission. Lunch will be served while supplies last.

Be sure to stop by and meet WT's own Thunder XI!

**PPHM**  
 PANHANDLE-PLAINS HISTORICAL MUSEUM  
 CANYON, TEXAS  
 www.panhandleplains.org

For more information call 806-651-2242 or visit panhandleplains.org

**October 25th- “West Texas Trails”** will take center stage as co-hosts Comanchero Canyons Museum and West Texas Historical Association sponsor a one-day seminar at the Hope Center, Quitaque, Texas, on October 25, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Author of *El Llano Estacado*, Dr. John Miller Morris of UT-San Antonio, will give an overview of the West Texas Trails and grass roots historians will give short presentations on trails they know best. Following lunch at the Tri-County Center and a tour of the Comanchero Canyons Museum, the conference will resume with talks and panels relating to trails of the Comanchero and Comanche, Ciboleros and buffalo hunters, Pastores and cattlemen, among others. Maps will be on display. On Friday evening, Oct. 24, a reception for Dr. Morris will be held at Hotel Matador in Matador at 6:30 p.m. Advance registration is required by Oct. 10. Registration and lunch is \$27 and the reception is \$15. For more information, contact Marisue Potts, 806 269-1098 or marisuepotts@hotmail.com or WTHA at wthayb@ttu.edu.



Map Courtesy Hall County Museum-Memphis, Texas

## An Introduction to the Use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles in Archaeology

Dempsey L. Malaney

### *Abstract*

*Unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV's) are defined as power-driven aerial vehicles sustained in flight by aerodynamic lift over most of their flight path and flown without an onboard crew. Over the last several months UAV's have received substantial coverage in the media. From a 60 Minutes story on the use of UAV's by Amazon to deliver packages to the recent story of a UAV capturing video of visitors on the observation deck of Seattle's famed Space Needle. The recent media attention on UAV's, often called "Drones", has usually been presented in a negative light. These tools, however, can have beneficial uses for many fields, including archaeology. This presentation examines a single type of UAV, quadcopters, and how they have been employed in local archaeological projects. Their potential for acquiring aerial images for historic period trails, identification of archaeological features, images of excavations, and other uses will be examined.*

### *Biography*

Dempsey Malaney was born and raised in the Perryton, Texas area. He graduated from West Texas A & M with a Bachelor of Arts degree in industrial arts and secondary education. He later obtained a Master of Arts Degree in psychology from the University of Northern Colorado. Dempsey spent 27 years in U.S. Army retiring in 1991 at the rank of Colonel. Later, he was employed in the private industry working for SIGCOM, Anteon, Inc., and Security Solutions, Inc. In 2003 Dempsey returned to the family ranch on Wolf Creek. Since then he has been a regular volunteer on Courson Archaeological Research (CAR) projects. He served as camp boss for the TAS archaeological field schools in 2008 and 2009 and the 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013 CAR field schools. He received the Francis Stickney Award from the TAS in 2009. Dempsey has been married to his high school sweetheart, former Kara Bess Apple, for over 50 years. Together they have three children and seven grandchildren. Dempsey is currently an Ochiltree County commissioner.



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# Upcoming Events

**Sept. 13,** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum, The 175th birthday of Mary Ann Dyer “Molly” Goodnight. See Page 7 “News and Notes” for more details.

**Sept. 17-** Panhandle Archeological Society meeting at Amarillo Public Library, downtown, 413 Southeast 4th St., 2nd Floor, 7:00 PM.

**Oct. 15-** Panhandle Archeological Society meeting at Amarillo Public Library, downtown, 413 Southeast 4th St., 2nd Floor, 7:00 PM.

**Oct. 24-26-** Texas Archaeological Society Annual Meeting, October 24 – 26, 2014, San Marcos. For more information: <http://www.txarch.org/Activities/AnnualMeeting/am2014/>

**Oct. 25-** The West Texas Trails meeting will be at the Hope Center at Quitaque, Texas. See Page 7 “News and Notes” for more details.

**Oct. 29– Nov. 1-** Plains Anthropological Society Conference, Fayetteville, Arkansas. For more information: <http://www.plainsanthroconf.com/>

**Nov. 18-** Panhandle Archeological Society meeting at Amarillo Public Library, downtown, 413 Southeast 4th St., 2nd Floor, 7:00 PM.

**Jan. 6 – 11, 2015-** Society for Historical Archaeology Annual Meeting, Seattle, Washington. For more information: [http://www.sha.org/index.php/view/page/annual\\_meetings](http://www.sha.org/index.php/view/page/annual_meetings)